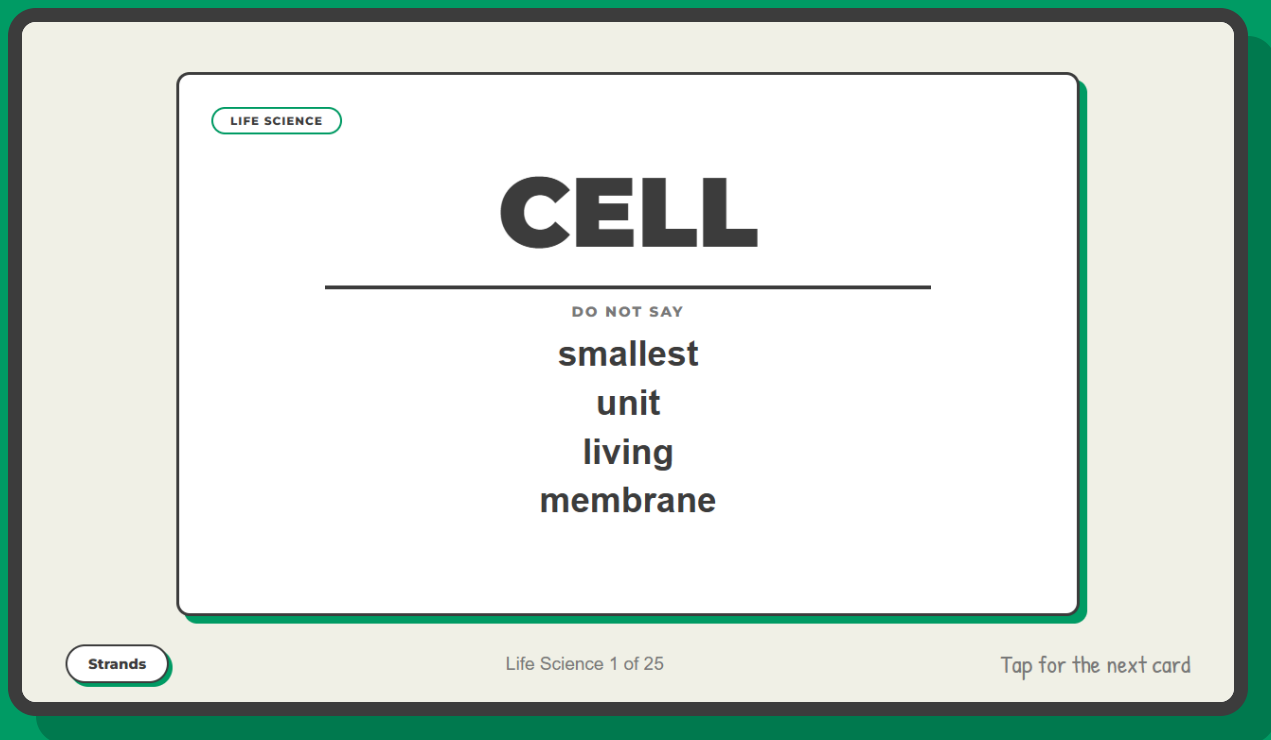


CLASSROOM REVIEW GAMES

SCIENCE TABOO GAME

Describe It Without Saying It · Grades 6 to 12 · 100 cards · 4 strands



Play on one tablet per table, or print the cards. Both are included.

How the game works

This is a table game, not a whole-class game. The card has to stay hidden from the guessers, so it is never put on the board. A table of 6 splits into 3 pairs and shares one tablet, or one pile of printed cards.

- 1. The describer takes the tablet or the top card. Only that person looks at it.**
- 2. A checker from another pair reads the same card. Their only job is to catch banned words.**
- 3. The describer talks and their partner guesses. Every word guessed is one point.**
- 4. A banned word means that card scores nothing. Move on to the next one.**
- 5. After 60 seconds, write the score on the table's sheet and pass the tablet along.**
- 6. Partners swap who describes each round, so everybody talks.**

Six rounds is about 30 minutes, and every student describes at least twice.

Deal one strand to review that unit, or shuffle all 100 for a mixed game.

Scoring is peer checked, so the teacher never has to judge an answer.

The tablet deck: 100 card slides

Choose a strand

Tap a strand to start there, then keep tapping for the next card.

LIFE SCIENCE

25

cards

Tap to start

EARTH SCIENCE

25

cards

Tap to start

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

25

cards

Tap to start

CHEMISTRY

25

cards

Tap to start

EARTH SCIENCE

LAVA

DO NOT SAY

molten
surface
erupts
flows

Strands

Earth Science 4 of 25

Tap for the next card

Tap anywhere for the next card. The Strands button in the corner goes back to the menu, so the next student can switch strand without leaving the slideshow.
Opens in Google Slides and PowerPoint.

Science Vocabulary Taboo

Describe It Without Saying It · Grades 6 to 12 · 100 cards · 4 strands

Tables of 6

This is a table game, not a whole-class game

The card must stay hidden from the guessers, so it is never shown on the board. Each table of **6** splits into **3 pairs** and plays with one tablet, or one pile of printed cards, passed around the table. Every table plays at the same time.

Set up (3 minutes)

1. Tables of **6**. Partners sit next to each other, so 3 pairs per table.
2. Give each table **one score sheet** and a pencil, and either **one tablet** showing the deck or **one pile of cards** face down.
3. Pairs decide their order. Pair 1 goes first.
4. You keep the clock for the whole room: **60 seconds** a turn.

Read this out

"You are playing in pairs. When it is your turn, one of you looks at the card and describes the word so your partner can say it. You may not say the word itself, and you may not say any of the four words listed under it. Someone from another pair watches your screen and checks. You get 60 seconds. Every word your partner gets is one point. Then the tablet passes on."

A turn, step by step

- 1 **Describer** takes the tablet or the top card. Only that person looks at it.
- 2 **Checker** from another pair sits so they can see it too. Their only job is to catch banned words.
- 3 **Describe.** The describer talks; their partner guesses out loud. Right answer, tap next and keep going.
- 4 **Banned word?** The checker says "banned". That card scores nothing, move to the next one.
- 5 **Time.** When the 60 seconds are up, write the pair's score on the sheet.
- 6 **Pass.** The tablet goes to the next pair. Inside a pair, swap who describes each round.

The rules a class will test

- No part of the word: no "sounds like", no first letter, no spelling it.
- No gestures and no drawing. Words only.
- Skipping is allowed, but a skipped card scores nothing.
- The checker's call is final. Arguing costs the pair that card.

Timing for one period

Set up 3 min · 6 rounds of about 4 min (60 seconds of play plus passing and scoring) · add up and announce 4 min. **About 30 minutes**, and every student describes at least twice. Short period? Play 4 rounds.

What is in the deck

Life Science (25) · **Earth Science** (25) · **Physical Science** (25) · **Chemistry** (25). Deal one strand at a time to review that unit, or shuffle all 100 for a mixed game.

Table card: the rules students keep in front of them

At Your Table

Print one per table. Keep it in the middle where everyone can see it.

- 1 **One person describes.** You look at the card. Your partner guesses.
- 2 **One person checks.** Someone from another pair reads the same card and listens for banned words.
- 3 **Never say** the word, any of the four banned words, part of the word, or the first letter.
No pointing, no acting, no drawing.
- 4 **One point** for every word your partner says correctly in 60 seconds.
- 5 **Pass it on** when time is up, and swap who describes next round.

Stuck?

Say what it is used for, where you would find it, what happens because of it, or what it is the opposite of. Those four openings will get you through almost any card.

Table score sheet

Table Score Sheet

Table _____

One per table. Write each pair's name, then their score for every round.

PAIR	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	TOTAL
Pair 1							
Pair 2							
Pair 3							

Which strand each round

ROUND	SUBJECT
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

Table winner

Pair

Points

Best describer at this table, voted by the table:

Hand this sheet in at the end so the class winner can be worked out.

Life Science: 1 of 3 card sheets

Life Science cards 1 to 10 of 25

Cut on the dashed lines. Print on card stock, or back to back with the next sheet so the words do not show through.

Life Science

LIFE SCIENCE

CELL

smallest
unit
living
membrane

LIFE SCIENCE

NUCLEUS

center
control
cell
DNA

LIFE SCIENCE

PHOTOSYNTHESIS

plants
sunlight
sugar
chlorophyll

LIFE SCIENCE

CHLOROPHYLL

green
plants
pigment
leaves

LIFE SCIENCE

MITOSIS

cell
divide
copy
two

LIFE SCIENCE

DNA

genes
code
helix
inherit

LIFE SCIENCE

GENE

DNA
trait
inherit
parents

LIFE SCIENCE

CHROMOSOME

DNA
thread
cell
pairs

LIFE SCIENCE

ORGANISM

living
thing
alive
creature

LIFE SCIENCE

BACTERIA

germs
tiny
single
infection

Earth Science: 1 of 3 card sheets

Earth Science cards 1 to 10 of 25

Cut on the dashed lines. Print on card stock, or back to back with the next sheet so the words do not show through.

Earth Science

EARTH SCIENCE

EROSION

wears
water
wind
away

EARTH SCIENCE

SEDIMENT

settles
layers
bottom
particles

EARTH SCIENCE

MAGMA

molten
rock
underground
hot

EARTH SCIENCE

LAVA

molten
surface
erupts
flows

EARTH SCIENCE

CRUST

outer
layer
earth
surface

EARTH SCIENCE

MANTLE

layer
below
crust
hot

EARTH SCIENCE

ATMOSPHERE

air
layer
around
gases

EARTH SCIENCE

CONDENSATION

gas
liquid
cools
droplets

EARTH SCIENCE

EVAPORATION

liquid
gas
heat
water

EARTH SCIENCE

PRECIPITATION

rain
falls
snow
sky

Physical Science: 1 of 3 card sheets

Physical Science cards 1 to 10 of 25

Cut on the dashed lines. Print on card stock, or back to back with the next sheet so the words do not show through.

Physical Science

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

FORCE

push
pull
newton
motion

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

FRICTION

rub
slows
surfaces
resistance

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

INERTIA

rest
motion
stays
Newton

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

ACCELERATION

speed
faster
change
rate

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

VELOCITY

speed
direction
fast
rate

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

MOMENTUM

mass
velocity
moving
hard

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

MASS

amount
matter
grams
heavy

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

WEIGHT

heavy
gravity
scale
pounds

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

DENSITY

mass
volume
packed
float

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

VOLUME

space
takes
cubic
liters

Chemistry: 1 of 3 card sheets

Chemistry

cards 1 to 10 of 25

Cut on the dashed lines. Print on card stock, or back to back with the next sheet so the words do not show through.

Chemistry

CHEMISTRY

ATOM

smallest
particle
matter
tiny

CHEMISTRY

ELEMENT

pure
periodic
atoms
substance

CHEMISTRY

MOLECULE

atoms
bonded
group
two

CHEMISTRY

COMPOUND

elements
combined
chemically
substance

CHEMISTRY

PROTON

positive
nucleus
charge
particle

CHEMISTRY

NEUTRON

neutral
nucleus
charge
zero

CHEMISTRY

ELECTRON

negative
orbits
charge
shell

CHEMISTRY

PERIODIC TABLE

elements
chart
rows
arranged

CHEMISTRY

ATOMIC NUMBER

protons
element
identifies
count

CHEMISTRY

ION

charged
electron
lost
gained

WHAT YOU GET

- **100 cards in 4 strands: Life Science, Earth Science, Physical Science, Chemistry**
- **A tablet deck (PowerPoint, opens in Google Slides) with one card per slide**
- **The same 100 cards as printable cut-apart cards, plus card backs**
- **A teacher rules page, a table card for students, and a table score sheet**
- **Color and ink-saver black and white, in US Letter and A4**

Questions or a special request? Email me any time.

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